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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/708,276	11/07/2000	Gary J. Nabel	1708642/94	1399

757 7590 12/04/2001

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EXAMINER

SANDALS, WILLIAM O

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1636

DATE MAILED: 12/04/2001

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/708,276

Applicant(s)

Nabel

Examiner

William Sandals

Art Unit

1636

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Jan 29, 2001
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 2-41 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claims 2-41 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.


- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

15) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____

16) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Report (PTO-618)



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DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restriction

1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
 - I. Claims 2-8, 10-13, 17-24 and 27, drawn to a method of treating restenosis with a nucleic acid encoding p27, classified in class 514, subclass 44.
 - II. Claims 2-13, 17-22, 25 and 27, drawn to a method of treating atherosclerosis with a nucleic acid encoding p27, classified in class 514, subclass 44.
 - III. Claims 2-7, 10-13, 17-22, 26 and 27, drawn to a method of treating angiogenesis with a nucleic acid encoding p27, classified in class 514, subclass 44.
 - IV. Claims 14 and 28, drawn to a method of inhibiting smooth muscle growth with a nucleic acid encoding p27, classified in class , subclass .
 - V. Claims 15 and 16, drawn to p27 protein, classified in class , subclass .
 - VI. Claims 29-41, drawn to a kit, classified in class 536, subclass 23.1.
2. The above groups contain the same claim in more than one group. Upon the election of a group, the claim will be examined as it pertains to the subject matter of the elected group.
3. The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:
4. Inventions of Groups I-IV are biologically and functionally different and distinct from each other and thus one does not render the other obvious. The methods of Groups I-IV comprise steps which are not required for or present in the methods of the other groups:

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Treatment of restenosis (Group I), treatment of atherosclerosis (Group II), treatment of angiogenesis (Group III), and inhibiting smooth muscle cell growth (Group IV). The end result of the methods are different and thus the operation, function and effects of these different methods are different and distinct from each other. Therefore, the inventions of these different, distinct groups are capable of supporting separate patents.

5. Inventions of Groups I-IV and V are biologically and functionally different and distinct from each other and thus one does not render the other obvious. The method of Groups I-IV comprise steps which do not require the composition of Group V. The operation, function and effects of the p27 protein of Group V are completely different and distinct from the operation, function and effects of the method of treating restenosis with a nucleic acid encoding p27 of Groups I-IV. Therefore, the inventions of these different and distinct groups are capable of supporting separate patents.

6. Inventions of Groups VI and I-IV are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case the kit of Group VI is merely a collection of products which may be used in a methods of detection, assays for gene activity and methods of isolation. Therefore, the products of the kits of claims 29-41 are useful in other methods and are not particular to the methods of Groups I-IV

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7. The protein of Group V and the kit of Group VI are chemically, biologically and functionally distinct from each other and thus one does not render the other obvious. The protein of Group V is not required in the kit of Group VI and the kit of Group VI is not required in the protein of Group V. Therefore, the inventions of these different and distinct groups are capable of supporting separate patents.

8. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, and because these inventions are structurally and/or functionally distinct for the reasons given above and the search required for each of the Groups is non-coextensive for each of the other Groups, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

9. Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

10. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(I).

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Conclusion

11. Certain papers related to this application are *welcomed* to be submitted to Art Unit 1636 by facsimile transmission. The FAX numbers are (703) 308-4242 and 305-3014. The faxing of such papers must conform with the notices published in the Official Gazette, 1156 OG 61 (November 16, 1993) and 1157 OG 94 (December 28, 1993) (see 37 CFR 1.6(d)). NOTE: If applicant *does* submit a paper by FAX, the original copy should be retained by the applicant or applicant's representative, and the FAX receipt from your FAX machine is proof of delivery. NO DUPLICATE COPIES SHOULD BE SUBMITTED, so as to avoid the processing of duplicate papers in the Office.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications should be directed to Dr. William Sandals whose telephone number is (703) 305-1982. The examiner normally can be reached Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM, EST. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, George Elliott can be reached at (703) 308-4003.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Zeta Adams, whose telephone number is (703) 305-3291.

William Sandals, Ph.D.



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Examiner

November 10, 2001